

2016	Local Oscillator	June
	<h1>Local Oscillator</h1>	
Mesilla Valley Radio Club		

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Current Events			Table of Contents
Date	Event	Time	Bean Feed Field Day Field Day MVRC Branigan Center Unclassified Dayton Hamfest Club Meeting Board Minutes Treasurer Report Club Location Club Officers Membership Application
Sat	Informal at Cracker Barrel	6:00 AM	
M, W, F	Informal Wal-Mart (West)	10:00 AM	
Wed	MVRC Net 146.64	6:45 PM	
June 4	Coffee Club House	8 AM	
June 4	Business meeting Club House	9 AM	
June 7	Builder's Group Club House	7 PM	
June 8	Board Meeting Club House	7 PM	
June 14	Linux –SIG Club House	7 PM	
June 21	Builders Group Club House	7 PM	
June 28	Linux - SIG Club House	7 PM	
June 25-26	Field Day Club House or		
For more events see http://www.n5bl.org/calendar			



More information at <http://swantenna.com>

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gone. The big display was the communications trailer being built by WORUG. It is large, will accommodate equipment for all bands, and be completely self-contained for a reasonable period of time. It is a work in progress which might be partially done by Field Day and may be displayed with our exhibit at the Brani-gan Cultural Center this fall.

There were more big ticket items than usual. The club sold well over \$3000 worth of mostly donated equipment so the club made a substantial amount of our budget that day. The attendance was reasonable with some coming from Mexico as well as from Colorado and Arizona.



KC5KWI, KC5EVR eat the last two bowls



An old S 36

Field Day

KC5EVR

Field Day this year will be held on June 25 and 26. It is a bit unclear as to just what our club will do this year, but it will become clearer after the club and board meeting. However here is a report about the 1997 Field Day which appeared in QST.

The Mesilla Valley Radio Club had one of its most frustrating Field Days in recent years. It ll started Wednesday evening when our Field Day chairman gave me a call saying that he had a family emergency and had to leave for Dallas the next day. The responsibility then fell on me as club president to finish making plans for the weekend.

Friday afternoon our antenna crew did a bang-up job getting everything in place, and we thought we were in good shape. But when I went to open the gates ar the site (our local high school soccer field) at 7:15 Saturday morning, I discovered that all of our antennas were down! During the early part of Friday evening, a microburst with extremely high winds roared through and wiped us out.

Well what to do next? We got our crew together, disassembled our ruined 3-band Yagi antenna and put a vertical in its place. We located a new mast for our 10-meter Novice/technician plus station beam, and reset our 6-meter beam.

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As this was happening, an emergency call came in from the Mesilla Valley Search and Rescue, requesting us to send a crew to Mayhill, New Mexico, 100 miles away. They needed our assistance to provide communications during the search for a 15-year old youth who had not returned from a hike on Friday. A substantial portion of our Field Day crew promptly headed for Mayhill.

Looking back on the weekend, I realized that our situation really exemplified what Field Day was all about -making everything work under adverse conditions. We could not have done this without the cooperation of our club members. They went the extra mile.

Field Day

Earl Drexler

Last year I heard several people talk of doing something different and I was looking forward to “Being in the field” for Field Day. I am not competing with the club but only trying something I have not done before. Now some others expressed interest and wanted to join in. I have been told I need a lot of help. Some people have given a lot of help in the past few days and weeks. I need more?

Where is this happening?

Event: Field Day 2016

Place: Binns field, Missouri and Don Roser

Time: June 25 through 26 about Noon to Noon for operations

Set up camp Sat AM Take Down and clean up Sunday PM

Who: Licensed Hams, Previous Hams, want to be hams and the public

Needs: People and what they can bring.

Contact: Earl Drexler leave and message home phone 575 541 1572 it will take a day to get back to you. I work weird hours and sometimes get in after 10 PM. Someone else like to help?

The ARRL Field Day Rules allow for individuals groups and clubs to gather to attempt to be outside for a chance to get some fresh air and see if we can work as if we responded to an emergency situation. I will set up a field station. With the help of others, we have secured a place within view of public. I think the really basics are about covered. We have a couple of radios for HF and several antennas are lined up. Several shade covers and tables have been promised.

There are some simple rules from ARRL for contesting. WE are going to try to follow. Ever wanted to work that spectrum you are not licensed for – Tech to Extra. Now is your chance. I am the designated Control Operator and an Extra Class Ham. SO the spectrum is open to you.

There are other simple rules. Have FUN!

First rule: Have fun,

Second rule: Assure others are having fun also.

Third rule: Bring an open mind.

Fourth rule: Share with others.

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Fifth rule: Help out with tasks that you can and find something you can do to help.

The last one will be important about 0300 hrs local.

This is short notice as an emergency will be even shorter. So let us not panic but bring what we have to share and have a lot of FUN.

MVRC BRANIGAN CULTURAL CENTER:

KF5KHJ

Wireless Wizardry: History of Radio in the Mesilla Valley

1. Between mid May and early June, much of the written material and specific exhibit plans that hams provided were turned into the Branigan Cultural Center.

Power Point Presentations for Kiosks
Plans for Power Point Presentations for Kiosks
Images, Sizes, Explanations of Radios to be on Exhibit
Diagrams, Explanations of Hands-On Exhibits
Time-Line of Events Related to Radio in the Mesilla Valley
Images, Explanations for non-power point Exhibits
Brief Time-Line of Events Related to Radio in the Mesilla Valley
Exhibit Summary

2. In mid to late June (specific date to be announced) radios and hardware need to be taken to the Branigan Cultural Center

3. The BCC will assign times and dates for three specific presentations--under consideration are two presentations with two to three of our club members (and possibly a guest for each) and one lecture presentation with an invited guest or a club member. These dates and subjects will be decided in the next few weeks.

Ideas so far include history, satellite communications, QQRS (slow speed and low power sending), broad band ham net, county hunting, emergency communications, integration of ham radio with other entities such as EOC, and PSL.

4. The Mesilla Valley Radio Club will operate a special events station during the first three weeks of the exhibit and then operate N5BL during the remainder of the exhibit.

5. MVRC Member Sign Up for covering exhibit hours has started! Sign Ups will be taken at the June 4th club meeting. The schedule will be turned into the museum in early August.

5. Docent Training: Since MVRC members will be on hand for all open hours of the museum (very exciting to be able to acquaint the public with ham radio this way), club members requested that the museum provide some general docent training to us. The Branigan staff members involved with our project agreed that this is a good idea.

The time will be announced.

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6. A Time line Handout with significant points of 150 years of radio history is being prepared: three eras: spark, vacuum tubes, transistor

UNCERTAINTIES:

1. Exact Times and Placement of Harvey's Mobile Station It cannot be left at the museum.

2. Exact Placement at the Branigan for the antennas to operate the special events station and N5BL, and scheduling the hams that can put them up and take them down.

3. Proposed schedule for an on-site tech or other class with license testing during the final week of the exhibit.

4. Dates and times for KRWG to produce program for tv/radio spot.

Thanks to all for making the first step of the Branigan exhibit a reality. There is tons to do however, before the actual start date of September 2. Exhibit runs 9/2 to 10/13 (or 14).

In addition to the actual setting up of the exhibit and the every day responsibilities during the exhibit, there are two FRIDAY night events and possibly several Thursday evening events, and at least one Saturday event that hams will have the opportunity to share information about ham radio. So, as a result, there are many specifics to work out; meetings will be called during the summer for sure!

Unclassified

Collin Anderson N6PIC has a nearly new Kenwood TS-990S for sale. Interested parties can call 575-640-5277

73 Dave WA5DJJ Las Cruces, New Mexico

Dayton Hamfest

KB6NU

Design Advances Make Portable Operation Easier, More Fun

I've just returned from the Dayton Hamvention. Dayton was a blast as usual, and if there's one thing I took away from this year's event it's that portable operation is not only becoming more popular, but more sophisticated as well. In fact, it's a virtuous circle. More sophisticated portable equipment is making portable operation more popular, which is spurring manufacturers to make more sophisticated equipment, which is making portable operation even more popular, and around we go.

This is perhaps most easily seen in the evolution of the Elecraft products. One of their first rigs was the K1, a small rig that was frequently toted out into the field, even though it wasn't really designed for that purpose. It had a small form factor, but had a conventional front panel layout.

The next evolution was the KX1. This CW-only radio was designed specifically for field work. It originally only covered 40m and 80m, and had a very limited

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front panel, but its built-in battery pack and KXPD1 paddle made it a great choice for portable operators when it was introduced in 2004.

A big leap forward was made when they introduced the KX3 in 2012. This radio combined a bunch of features never before found in a portable rig. The KX3 features an SDR architecture and covers all modes, including (SSB, CW, Data, FM, AM); used the same full-sized LCD display as the K3; has advanced DSP features; and can be connected to a computer via USB for firmware upgrades and for use with other ham radio software. The KX3 is so full-featured that many operators use it as their main rig with a suitable linear amplifier. At Dayton 2016, Elecraft took this concept even further and introduced the KX2. It's about half the size of the KX3, but yet has almost all of the features of the KX3. There was a tremendous amount of buzz over this radio at Dayton among portable operation aficionados. The base price of the KX2 is \$750, and with options, will cost you about \$1,000.

Of course, Elecraft isn't the only company competing in this market. LNR Precision sells a radio called the LD-5, and at Dayton, they introduced the LD-11, which like the KX3 and KX2 features an SDR architecture and covers 160m - 6m. This radio goes for about \$800, and has also proven to be popular among portable operators.

Dayton also had a number of exhibitors that supplied products other than radios to aid portable operation. There were several portable antenna manufacturers, including Buddipole (buddipole.com) and PackTenna (packtenna.com), and BiEnno Power (biennopower.com) was also there, showing off their new lithium-iron batteries,

While radios like the KX2 and LD-11, at relatively low prices, allow operators to easily get out into the field, portable operation would not be as popular as it is without organized activities. Programs like the Summits on the Air (SOTA, www.sota.org.uk, na.sota.org) and the National Parks on the Air (NPOTA, npota.arrl.org) make portable operation even more fun. These programs do this by providing a structure in which operators can find one another and gain awards for operating. SOTA did not have a booth at Dayton, but NPOTA was a big part of the ARRL section there.

If you aren't already a portable operator, you should give it a try! You don't have to invest a bunch of money in a rig to just try it. KX1s have been had for less than \$400, and simpler QRP rigs cost a lot less. Getting outside and operating in the fresh air is a lot of fun and could give you a whole new perspective on amateur radio.

Monthly Club Meeting

Not available

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Monthly Board Meeting

The annual Bean Feed turned out to be an overwhelming success I believe. The weather was perfect.

The sum of \$3225 was deposited Monday in our account. Of this amount 3 folks renewed their membership and 2 new members paid for the year.

Approximately \$300 is still to be collected by folks who were "a little short" Our very generous members and other friends of ham radio who gave equipment and their time are to be thanked.

A VE session was held after the Bean Feed, Unfortunately, the candidate didn't quite make it. Better luck next time.

Another VE session is scheduled for Saturday the 14th. 1400 hours.

A short board meeting was held on Wednesday the 11th. The Results of the Bean Feed were discussed and ways to make it better for next year were talked about.

Any one with any thoughts are asked to either email me or bring up the subject at the next club meeting.

The thoughts we came up with to improve a successful operation will be discussed at the next meeting also.

Our club's board meetings are open to all and everyone is strongly encouraged to come participate.

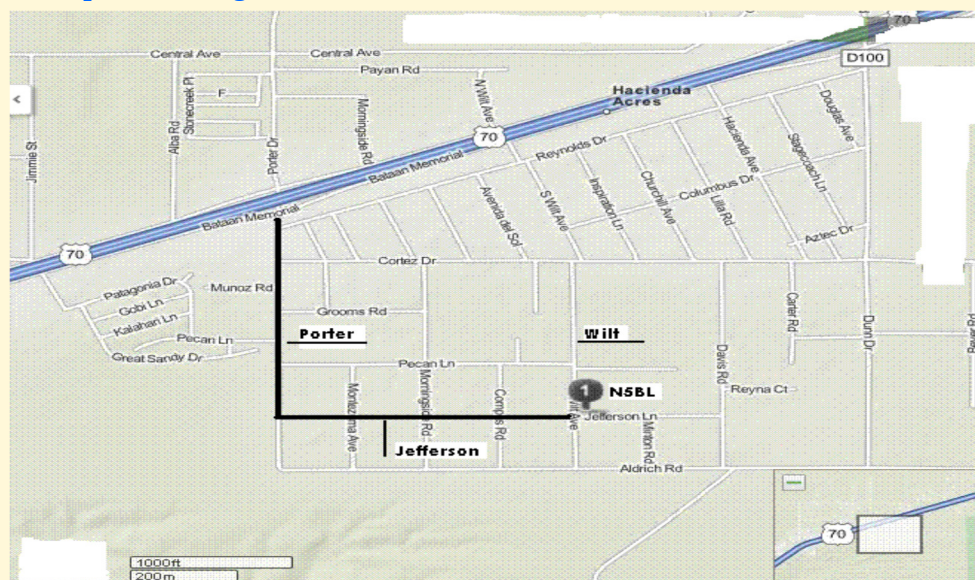
Treasurer Report

Not available

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CLUB INFORMATION

The MVRC Clubhouse is located at the intersection of Wilt and Jefferson. To find the clubhouse, set your destination on your GPS receiver as 32 degrees 22.961 minutes and -106 degrees 41.44 minutes. If you don't own a GPS, take the Porter exit near the firehouse on US 70. It is about 5 miles east from the I 25 interchange. Go south on Porter until you come to Jefferson. There turn left toward the mountains and go to Wilt. You will see the beam on the corner. The treasurer would be delighted to receive your contribution for landscaping and furnishing. More information at <http://n5bl.org>



Officers

Office	Name	Call	Phone	E-Mail
President	Sven Breden	K5SHB	655-0414	sven.breden@gmail.com
VP				
Secretary				
Treasurer	Hugo Costa	N1MEX	644-9211	n1mex@arrl.net
Board Members				
	Cash Olsen	KD5SSJ	382-1917	kd5ssj@arrl.net
	Bob Bennett	AD5LJ	382-0148	rpbennett1@comcast.net
	Alex. Burr	K5XY	522-2528	k5xy@arrl.net
	Robert Truitt	KE5OFK	649-4173	robhtruitt@zianet.com
	George Kopp	KD5OHA	640-7853	geokd5oha@yahoo.com
	Terry Wood	KF5SMQ		

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JOIN THE CLUB

To join the Mesilla Valley Radio Club, renew your membership, or to support the repeaters, please print, cut out, and complete the form below. Send it with dues (\$35 single, \$45 family per year. to: Treasurer, MVRC, Box 1443, Las Cruces, NM 88004.

MESILLA VALLEY RADIO CLUB

CALL SIGN(S) _____ FAMILY yes _____ no _____

LICENSE CLASS (E, A, G, T, N) _____

ARRL (Y/N) _____

ARRL VE (Y/N) _____

Would you like to be added to the MVRC reflector? _____

NAME _____

EMAIL _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY & ZIP _____ PHONE _____ (OPTIONAL)

INTERESTS – Computer _____ Contests _____ Digital _____ Elmer _____ Emergency Communications _____ Field Day _____

Packet _____ Programs _____ Public Service _____ Publicity _____ RFI _____ Repeater _____ Social _____ License Classes _____

Teach License Classes _____ Volunteer Examiner _____ Other _____

SINGLE \$35 FAMILY \$45